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HOUSE RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, In response to a series of violent acts in Springfield, the Reverend Lee Fields, Jr., senior pastor of Pleasant Grove Baptist Church in Springfield, organized a "Stop the Violence" march, held on February 6, 2006; and

WHEREAS, Hope and faith were the overall messages of the march, and the need for each citizen to take responsibility for stopping the violence in their own home was highlighted; and

WHEREAS, The event included speeches from students, clergy, State lawmakers, and community leaders; the mayor, police chief, aldermen, and other city and State officials also attended; and

WHEREAS, Participants gathered in more than 200 vehicles at Southeast High School then drove together to Fourth Street and Capitol Avenue to walk to the east steps of the Capitol for a prayer and candlelight vigil; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Fields talked about people taking charge of their own children and the importance of teaching self-respect and not blaming the problems of youth on their schools; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we thank Reverend Lee Fields, Jr., for his community leadership in heightening public awareness to the growing violence in his community by organizing a "Stop the Violence" march; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Reverend Fields as an expression of our gratitude for his involvement in the community.